Addition of Newer Societies or Centres to Technical Departments

2487. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Science and Technology Department keeps adding newer societies or centres;

(b) if so, the details of such additions during the last 3 years; and

(c) the details of the methodology adopted for coordinating with societies of other Scientific Departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): Depending upon the need for promoting new areas and based on review of research activities of existing institutions, the Department of Science and Technology considers setting up of new societies or centres only after careful consideration of the need and availability of funds.

(b) The details of additions during the last three years under the Department of Science and Technology are as under:

1989—Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advance Scientific Research, Bangalore.

1989—Vigyan Prasar, New Delhi.

(c) The programmes of new societies/centres are so chalked out that they carefully take into account research activities in other institutions/laboratories and also appropriate interaction and linkages are established between various research institutions by appropriately representing scientists from these institutions on the various bodies of the societies/centres.

Utilisation of ancient Indian Text in Modern Context

2488. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had assured to assist any institution or individual willing to plan and work to utilise/explore ancient Indian texts for the development of technology in modern context;

(b) if so, the names of such institutions along with their specific project and individuals who receiving Government assistance and also those whose names are under consideration; and

(c) what ancient scripts have been translated to be utilised in modern context and what are the specific subjects chosen for basic studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The projects/studies recently sponsored by the Government are:

1. Coordinated Programmes related to Technology development in the Indian Languages, particularly Role of Indian Sanskrit Tradition in Evolving Artificial Intelligence Systems, (Department of Electronics).

2. Foundations and methodologies of theoretical sciences (logic, linguistics, mathematics, cognitive science) in Indian tradition. (National Institute for Science,